

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7096

BILL NUMBER: HB 1179

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 1, 2003

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Off-road Vehicles.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Buck

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires that an off-road vehicle (vehicle) must be registered with the Department of Natural Resources (Department) in order to be operated. The bill revises the registration procedure. The bill also makes it a Class C infraction to operate a vehicle without the identification numbers issued by the Department attached to the vehicle, with certain exceptions.

Effective Date: July 1, 2003.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues: State revenues may increase due to two factors: (1) Collection of penalties for unregistered vehicles, and (2) Increased revenues due to higher compliance with registration requirements.

Penalty Provision: If a person operates the vehicle without identification numbers affixed, they commit a Class C infraction. If additional court cases occur, revenue to the state General Fund may increase if infraction judgments and court fees are collected. The maximum judgment for a Class C infraction is \$500, which is deposited in the state General Fund. If court actions are filed and a judgment is entered, a court fee of \$70 would be assessed. 70% of the court fee would be deposited in the state General Fund if the case is filed in a court of record or 55% if the case is filed in a city or town court.

Registration Fees: This bill requires that an individual that purchases a vehicle include a copy of the bill of sale and a signed affidavit with the registration application. The following table presents the number of annual vehicle registrations processed by the Department of Natural Resources each year. The number of

unregistered vehicles is unknown. The registration fee for vehicles is currently \$6. Given that there is now a penalty for operating a vehicle without registration numbers, the number of vehicles registered may increase. The effect this will have on fees collected for new registrations is unknown.

Off-Road Vehicle Registration.

Year	New Registrations	Renewals	Total
CY 2001	7,107	1,210	8,317
CY 2002	6,534	1,033	7,567

Note: 2002 as of October 31.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues: If a person operates the vehicle without identification numbers affixed, they commit a Class C infraction. If additional court actions are filed and a judgment is entered, local governments would receive revenue from the following sources: (1) The county general fund would receive 27% of the \$70 court fee that is assessed in a court of record. Cities and towns maintaining a law enforcement agency that prosecutes at least 50% of its ordinance violations in a court of record may receive 3% of court fees. If the case is filed in a city or town court, 20% of the court fee would be deposited in the county general fund and 25% would be deposited in the city or town general fund. (2) A \$3 fee would be assessed and, if collected, would be deposited into the county law enforcement continuing education fund. (3) A \$2 jury fee is assessed and, if collected, would be deposited into the county user fee fund to supplement the compensation of jury members.

State Agencies Affected: Department of Natural Resources

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, local law enforcement agencies.

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